

Message Text

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ACTION HEW-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 SCI-06 MED-03 AID-20 IGA-02

OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FDRE-00

PRS-01 DRC-01 PASS-00 /078 W
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R 011210Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7648

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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PASS: DR. SENCER, CDC, ATLANTA FROM FOEGE WHO SMALLPOX
TEAM

GENEVA FOR DR. BLOOD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TBIO, IN

SUBJ: SMALLPOX AUTUMN CAMPAIGN

1. FIRST SMALLPOX SEARCH WEEK COMPLETED WITH RESULTS FAR
EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS. IN U.P. AND BIHAR EXCESS OF 1000 OUT-
BREAKS LIKELY WITH OVER 5000 CASES. SITUATION IS BETTER IN WEST
BENGAL.

2. IMPLICATIONS ARE THAT PREVIOUS SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM HAS BEEN
MUCH LESS EFFICIENT THAT WHO TEAMS MOST PESSIMISTIC ESTIMATES,
BUT MORE IMPORTANT THERE IS NOW A TOOL FOR FINDING CASES.

3. SPECIAL STAFF IN FIELD FOR FOUR ENDEMIC STATES NUMBERS 30
PERSONS, HALF INDIAN AND HALF INTERNATIONAL. THIS IS INADEQUATE IN
FACE OF ABOVE SITUATION AND THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ANNUAL EPIDEMIC
SEASON IS NOW STARTING. THE MAJORITY OF TEAM ARE 3 MONTH
ASSIGNEES.

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4. WHO TEAM MEETS TODAY WITH MINISTRY OF HEALTH OFFICIALS

TO OUTLINE WHAT IS REQUIRED TO BREAK SMALLPOX TRANSMISSION BEFORE NEXT MONSOON REALIZING THAT WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE AND WHAT IS AVAILABLE ARE TWO OTHER QUESTIONS. IT IS PLANNED TO RECOMMEND AT LEAST DOUBLING OF FIELD STAFF AND ALSO PLAN TO REOPEN IDEA OF OPERATIONS OFFICERS UNDER TITLE OF EPIDEMIC CONTROL OFFICERS.

5. IF THIS CONCEPT ACCEPTABLE TO INDIANS WHO SMALLPOX TEAM WILL BE MAKING A REQUEST TO WHO HEADQUARTERS GENEVA. GENEVA IN TURN MIGHT REQUEST THAT SOME OF THE ASSIGNEES COME FROM CDC STAFF. FOR FOEGE INFORMATIONS, PRIOR TO MAKING SUCH A REQUEST, WHAT IS STATUS OF MEDICAL OFFICERS WHO MIGHT BE AVAILABLE? IS IT POSSIBLE THAT ANY COULD BE AVAILABLE IN NOVEMBER OR DECEMBER IF WHO REQUESTS? WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO RECRUIT OPERATIONS OFFICERS? OFFICERS WITH PREVIOUS SMALLPOX EXPERIENCE ESSENTIAL TO WORK IN FIELD. WHAT QUANTITY LIKELY? COULD SEVERAL BE AVAILABLE CONSIDERING EMERGENCY SITUATION ON VERY SHORT NOTICE TO TEST CONCEPT OF WHO OPERATIONS OFFICERS IF QUALIFIED AGREEMENT RECEIVED FROM INDIA?

6. ENTHUSIASM AT STATE, DISTRICT AND PHC'S IS AT EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH LEVEL. DOUBT THAT CIRCUMSTANCES CAN BE EASILY DUPLICATED IN THE FUTURE, THEREFORE, WHO TEAM MUST CAPITALIZE ON SITUATION AND MOBILIZE WHATEVER IS REQUIRED GLOBALLY TO END SMALLPOX TRANSMISSION BEFORE NEXT MONSOON.

7. WHO GENEVA WOULD BE EXPECTED TO PAY TRANSPORTAION AND PER DIEM. A 90 DAY MINIMUM TOUR FOR MEDICAL OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO WHO TEAM APPEARS ESSENTIAL.
MOYNIHAN

NOTE BY OC/T: NEW DELHI 12629 PASSED CDC ATLANTA.

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